



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAY 06 2013

Mr. Herschel T. Vinyard, Jr.  
Secretary  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Dear Mr. Vinyard:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 would like to thank you and your staff for participating in the integrated State Review Framework (SRF) and NPDES Permit Quality Review (PQR) evaluation of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) enforcement and compliance and NPDES permitting programs. Region 4 is very appreciative of the cooperation and assistance provided by DEP during the reviews, and the straightforward communication and collaboration displayed by your staff in working with us throughout the review process.

Please find enclosed the final round two SRF and PQR review for Florida DEP. This report includes an evaluation of DEP's enforcement and compliance activities for the RCRA Subtitle C program, the Clean Water Act NPDES program and the Clean Air Act Stationary Source program for federal fiscal year 2011. The PQR evaluates DEP's NPDES permitting program for actions taken during federal fiscal year 2010 and 2011. The report recognizes that DEP implements effective compliance and enforcement activities in many of the elements evaluated in the SRF, and identifies recommendations for improvement to strengthen performance in fourteen specific areas. We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize DEP for the proactive response to recommendations for improvement. We look forward to working with you and your staff as you develop and implement procedures to address the recommendations.

Please extend our thanks to everyone involved for their cooperation in the development of this report. We look forward to continuing the strong partnership that we share with DEP in our joint efforts to improve the environment for all of our citizens. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed report, please feel free to contact us or Scott Gordon, the Associate Director of OEA, at (404) 562-9741.

Sincerely,

V. Anne Heard  
Acting Regional Counsel and Director  
Office of Environmental Accountability

  
for James D. Giattina  
Director  
Water Protection Division

cc: Jeff Littlejohn, Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs